

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ATHENS 06250 292243Z

66

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 DRC-01 /102 W

----- 101651

R 291600Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5216

INFO SECDEF

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 6250

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, GR

SUBJ: GOVERNMENT CHANGES AND PURGES CONTINUE

1. SUMMAR. RECENT PERSONNEL AND ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGES IN GREEK BUREACRACY UNDERSCORE GOG'S CONTINUING EFFORTS TO RECHANNEL ADMINISTRATIVE POWER INTO CIVILIAN HANDS. WHILE GOG IS QUICK TO DENY PERSONNEL SHIFTS ARE IN RESPONSE TO POPULAR DEMANDS FOR REVENGE, RECENT CHANGES INDICATE A PUNITIVE AS WELL AS CONSTITUTIONAL AND REFORM DIMENSION. END SUMMARY.

2. GEORGE RALLIS, DEPUTY TO CARAMANLIS, ANNOUNCED AUGUST 27 THAT WITHIN NEAR FUTURE GOG WILL REINSTATE CIVIL SERVANTS WHO WERE DISMISSED FOR POLITICAL REASONS BY JUNTA. GOG IS ALSO CONSIDERING REEXAMINATION OF CASES OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES DISMISSED FOR PROFESSIONAL INCOMPETENCE PAST SEVEN YEARS. IN ADDITION PRESS REPORTS INDICATE RETIRED GENDARMERIE OFFICIALS HAVE PETITIONED MINISTRY PUBLIC ORDER FOR REINSTATEMENT OF NUMBER FORMER POLICE OFFICERS.

3. ON AUGUST 28, RALLIS FOUND NECESSARY TO ISSUE DISCLAIMER ON SOME OTHER RECENT PRESS REPORTS ANTICIPATING MAJOR PURGES. HE DENIED WIDESPREAD REPORT AUGUST 28 THAT THE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ATHENS 06250 292243Z

SECURITY AGENCY, KYP, WOULD BE RADICALLY REORGANIZED WITH

REDUCED MISSION. COMMENT: NONETHELESS, WITH A NEW CHIEF PENDING FOR KYP, OTHER SENIOR PERSONNEL CHANGES, AND THE RECORD OF HAVING FAILED TO DETECT PAST COUPS, A REORGANIZATION OF SECURITY AND INTELLIGENCE SERVICES SEEMS INEVITABLE.

4. TWO UNDERMINISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS ANNOUNCED AUGUST 29 FURTHER TESTIFY THAT APPOINTMENTS BY CARAMANLIS' ADMINISTRATION ARE GOING ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY TO ACTIVITATE OPPONENTS OF JUNTA. UNDERSECRETARY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE--FIRST TIME THIS POSITION HAS BEEN FILLED SINCE 1967--IS JOHN KATSADIMAS, WHO WAS CG OF THE HELLENIC FIRST ARMY IN APRIL 1967 AND THE SECOND RANKING GENERAL AT THE TIME OF THE COUP WHICH RETIRED HIM. NEW UNDER-SECRETARY OF CULTURE AND SCIENCES IS VASSILIS VASSILIOU, LONG TIME POLITICAL COMMENTATOR FOR VRADYNI AND FREQUENT CRITIC OF U.S. POLICY. THE APPOINTMENTS FURTHER ILLUSTRATE TREND IN RECENT APPOINTMENTS OF TWO TYPES OF RESISTANCE PERSONALITIES: THOSE WHO LIKE KATSADIMAS OPPOSED THE JUNTA, PAID A PROFESSIONAL PRICE, AND THEREAFTER SHUTUP WAITING FOR THE RETURN TO NORMALITY; AND THOSE LIKE VASSILIOU WHO ALSO PAID A PROFESSIONAL PRICE THROUGH ACTIVE AND CONSISTENT PROPAGANDA AGAINST THE JUNTA.

5. ALTHOUGH GOG HAS NOT DISCLOSED ITS APPOINTMENTS POLICY IN UNIVERSITIES, THERE IS AMPLE EVIDENCE THAT NOT ONLY ALL PERSONNEL IRREGULARLY APPOINTED ARE BEING DISMISSED BUT ALSO, AND MORE PUNITIVELY, ANY TEACHERS WHO SERVED JUNTA AT SENIOR LEVEL WILL LOSE ACADEMIC POSITIONS EVEN IF LEGALLY ELECTED IN FIRST INSTANCE. FORMER MINISTER TSAKONAS, FOR EXAMPLE, HAS WRITTEN FRIENDS FROM HIS ITALIAN RETREAT THAT HE DOES NOT EXPECT TO RETURN TO HIS CHAIR AT PANTIOS. THERE HAVE BEEN A SERIES OF STUDENT MEETINGS AT THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION BY STUDENTS SEEKING TO SAVE APOLITICAL BUT JUNTA-SPONSORED ACADEMICIANS WHOM STUDENTS CONSIDER EXCELLENT PROFESSORS. BUT IT IS NOT AT ALL CERTAIN THAT MINISTRY WILL GRANT EXCEPTIONS TO WHAT IN PRINCIPLE WOULD CONSTITUTE THOROUGH HOUSECLEANING OF UNIVERSITIES.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ATHENS 06250 292243Z

6. SINCE CHANGEOVER TO CIVILIAN RULE, THERE HAS BEEN FARILY STEADY PRESS FOCUS ON NEED TO PURGE GREECE OF JUNTA ELEMENTS. THE PRESS CAMPAIGN IS ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY AIMED AT THOSE WHO ABUSED POLITICAL PRISONERS, THE PERPETRATORS OF THE POLYTECHNION KILLINGS, AND MILITARY AND OTHER ELEMENTS RESPONSIBLE FOR CYPRUS COUP. CARAMANLIS HAS BEEN WIDELY PRAISED FOR EACH ROUND OF PERSONNEL

DISMISSALS, AND CRITIZED ONLY FOR FAILURE TO REPLACE
JUNTA-APPOINTED LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND, FROM
LEFT, FOR SLOWNESS IN SHAKING UP MILITARY COMMANDS. IT
STRIKES US THAT CARAMANLIS FROM FIRST HAS EMBARKED ON
SYSTEMATIC SCHEDULE FOR SOLIDIFYING CIVILIAN
CONTROL WITH FULL APPRECIATION OF POLITICA FACTORS.
GOG GOAL IN THE LONG RUN MEANS COMPLETION OF WRESTING POWER
FROM JUNTA APPOINTEES WHICH WILL
HELP TO SATISFY GRIEVED FEELINGS
OF ESTABLISHMENT. REMOVING JUNTA APPOINTEES ALSO HAS
EFFECT OF DISARMING THE LEFT OF ONE OF ITS MAIN POLITICAL
DEMANDS WHILE MEETING REQUIREMENT OF SATISFYING
CARAMANLIS' SENSE OF HONR, SERVICE AND PATRIOTISM.
TASCA

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT REFORM, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: martinml
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ATHENS06250
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740240-0491
From: ATHENS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974089/aaaaahle.tel
Line Count: 129
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: martinml
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 APR 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <12 MAR 2003 by martinml>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOVERNMENT CHANGES AND PURGES CONTINUE
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, GR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005